Stillaguamish River Clean Water District Advisory Board

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Snohomish County Public Works, Surface Water Management 3000 Rockefeller Avenue, Everett, WA 98201 (425) 388-3464 www.surfacewater.info Monte Marti, Manager Snohomish Conservation District 528 91st Ave. N.E., Suite A Lake Stevens, WA 98258

June 24, 2010

Dear Mr. Marti,

Pursuant to T25A.30.030 Snohomish County Code, the Stillaguamish Clean Water District Advisory Board offers you the following recommendations for your 2011 CWD Work Plan. We appreciate the outstanding work that SCD does in the Stillaguamish basin.

- The Board recommends that you continue your follow-up survey of the SCD-assisted farm plans now being implemented within the CWD. Because complete implementation of such plans often awaits sufficient funding, the Board believes this survey can serve to identify potential projects for the CWD Discretionary Fund program. We urge SCD to consider hiring an additional planner for this purpose. Enough money is available in our SCD fund balance for a multi-year effort.
- The Board intends to more vigorously pursue Discretionary Fund projects. We ask SCD to assist in publicizing the program, both on your webpage and in your *Nexus* publication. We request inclusion of articles highlighting links between upstream practices and contamination in the Port Susan and South Skagit Bay shellfish beds that impede certification of new harvest areas, and present a risk of decertification of currently approved shellfish tidelands. These articles should also stress the importance of healthy, pollution-free water throughout the watershed. Information on waste management practices, including livestock, pet, and human waste, should be current. Small farm seminars and SCD fair booths should also provide information and application forms for discretionary fund projects.
- SCD conducted livestock inventories in 2009 in the Church Creek and Pilchuck Creek watersheds, and plans to do so in the Warm Beach and Glade Bekken watersheds in 2010. The Board recommends that this effort continue through 2011, with yearend reports to the Board. Recommended additional watersheds are Portage Creek and Fish Creek, where fecal coliform reductions of 83% and 81% respectively are needed to meet the TMDL targets.
- The Board recommends further, proactive educational outreach by SCD for hobby farms and other non-dairy farms within the

CWD, pursuant to clean-water actions prioritized through the Stillaguamish Shellfish Protection Program. We urge SCD to leverage CWD funding with available grants related to these actions. We also suggest establishing media partners to broaden SCD's outreach impact.

The Board hopes these recommendations help you in forming your 2011 Work Plan. We thank SCD for its cooperation and its ongoing work to improve water quality in Snohomish County.

Respectfully,

John Connolly, Chair

Christine Betchley, Vice Chair

Cc: Debbie Terwilleger, Director, Snohomish County Surface Water Management